

# LABOR CLARION

Official Journal of the San Francisco Labor Council

Vol. XLII

San Francisco, March 10, 1943

No. 7

## "Governmental Bureaucracy at Its Very Worst"

*[Reproduced below are two statements on the Kaiser case now pending before the National Labor Relations Board. One is by Joseph A. Padway, general counsel of the American Federation of Labor, the other by John P. Frey, president of the A.F.L. Metal Trades Department. Both are outstanding contributions in further exposing the issue that is presented to the labor movement by the action of bureaucratic interpretation of laws, aided by the machinations of a jealous and dual labor organization intent on gaining power rather than protecting the welfare of the workers of the nation.]*

The two statements should be read in their entirety by every member of union labor who is interested in preserving the well established and legitimate policy of organization of the workers which has carried the American labor movement to the highest position ever attained by any other labor body in the world. Those not connected with union labor also are asked to read the statements, that they may gain further information on the issues which the Kaiser case presents. The first of the statements which follows is by Mr. Padway.]

**By JOSEPH A. PADWAY,**

General Counsel, American Federation of Labor

The administration of the National Labor Relations Act has become intolerable. It stands out as a glaring example of governmental bureaucracy at its very worst.

Exercising their inordinate powers from a secluded ivory tower that is completely insulated from the most important and obvious facts and problems of our national existence today, the members of the Board are determined to sacrifice common sense to legalistic rigidity and to ignore and override the broad purposes of the Act by a narrow and parochial emphasis on small detail.

This would be bad enough in normal times of peace; in times of war it is intolerable. The American people will not stand by—and should not—while its servants pursue a policy which directly and substantially jeopardizes the effective prosecution of the war.

### Formalistic and Partisan

There is no more pointed proof of the Board's complete deterioration into a formalistic, partisan and parochial agency than its decision, at the behest of a dual and raiding labor organization, to issue and proceed upon a complaint against Henry J. Kaiser.

The facts in that case are both obvious and eloquent. Henry J. Kaiser has been and is one of the most enlightened pro-labor employers in the country. When he embarked upon the new and vital war enterprise of shipbuilding he followed his usual policy of entering into a contract with the bona fide labor organization which was, admittedly, the dominant union in that locality representing shipbuilding workers. This was not only done in complete good faith, it was done with governmental participation and approval.

The result of the joinder of Kaiser's genius for production with labor's enthusiastic co-operation has

been the most remarkable record of production achievement ever witnessed the world over.

Consider, then, the total perversion implicit in an effort to prosecute Kaiser and set aside that contract under an Act which is designed to promote industrial stability by the prevention of unfair labor practices—(could anybody reasonably contend that Kaiser is unfair to labor or that his practices are the kind that prompted the enactment of the Wagner Act)—to the greater end that there be no interference with the free flow of manufactured goods in the channels of commerce.

### Apologists for Board

Apologists and spokesmen for the Board have sought to explain its incredible decision on the ground that it had no alternative—that they were charged with an explicit congressional mandate to proceed against and set aside any closed-shop agreement made under the circumstances of this case, namely, before a majority of the full complement of employees had designated the contracting union as their collective bargaining agent. The answer may be put succinctly and bluntly—poppycock!

### Board Given Discretion

Congress deliberately refrained from imposing upon the Board a positive duty to proceed in any case. It vested complete and absolute discretion within the Board to proceed or not to proceed in any case by providing that "The Board shall have power to issue a complaint." Congress did this precisely for the reason of preventing a distortion of the Board's pur-

poses and large object of the Act by undue and unrealistic reliance upon subsidiary detail.

Indeed, in a number of cases—such as the Harlan County coal operators' case and the Alston Coal Company case—where closed-shop agreements were executed by the C.I.O. at a time when it represented a small minority, if any, of the employees, and where every consideration of equity and fairness should have moved the Board to entertain the charges of the A.F.L. union which claimed representation of a majority, the Board refused to issue a complaint on the ground that they would not thereby be serving the larger ends of the Act. And when it was suggested by some that the Board's absolute power over the issuance and non-issuance of complaints be somewhat modified, the Board itself led the opposition to this suggestion on the ground that, unless it retained such absolute discretion, the purposes of the Act would be destroyed.

If Congress has imposed any mandate upon the Board, it was a mandate not to proceed against employers in Henry J. Kaiser's situation. That is the only possible reason for having vested such full power and discretion in the Board. Even assuming a technical violation of the Act—which we deny—common sense and fairness should have dictated a decision not to impair the production records of the Kaiser shipbuilding yards by disturbing and upsetting labor relations that have proved satisfactory under the severest tests.

### An Obvious Danger

That a protracted, formal, adverse hearing, followed by an intense and bitter rival organizational campaign, can only result in serious interruptions of the "free flow of commerce" of a vital war material is obvious to all save the blind and the naive or the partisan. Clearly, the only criterion that should have determined the Board's exercise of its all-inclusive discretion in the Kaiser case (as in all cases today) is what effect it would have on the war effort. Clearly, that criterion was abandoned in the Kaiser case, for the necessary and inevitable result of the Board's decision to proceed is adversely to affect the war effort.

### Striking Contrast Cited

Contrast the action of the Labor Board with that of the President of the United States when he approved a recommendation that no violations of the Anti-Trust Act should be prosecuted if such prosecutions interfered with the war effort. That the Labor Board should have taken the same approach, particularly where, as here, a violation (if it exists at all) is highly technical, and where, as here, the interference with the war effort is inevitable, is self-evident and beyond debate.

The attempt, at the behest of the C.I.O. to harass and penalize a pro-labor employer, and to seriously disrupt the war production of an employer world famous for his records, and to abrogate labor agreements which have in large part made those records possible, all for what is, at most, a technical violation of the Act—if that—is, at worst, an instance of

*(Continued on Page Two)*

## Senate Committee Tables Two Bills on "Hot Cargo"

Senate Bills Nos. 92 and 93, which proposed to make permanent the terms of the law embodied in Proposition 1, adopted by the voters last November, were tabled by the Senate labor committee following a hearing last Tuesday night.

It will be recalled that the measure adopted last November pertaining to "hot cargo" and the secondary boycott contains a provision that the law shall be applicable only for the duration of the war. At this session of the Legislature, Senators Hatfield and Rich introduced Bills Nos. 92 and 93, above mentioned.

A representative delegation of union labor members attended the Tuesday night hearing, in opposition to the bills. President Haggerty of the State Federation of Labor, and Mervyn Rathbone of the C.I.O. presented the labor arguments, and appearance in favor of the bills was made by two or three groups, including the Farm Bureau Federation. When the vote was taken, however, members of the committee were unanimous in ordering that both measures be tabled. Press dispatches from Sacramento again stated, as was the case on the Fletcher-Biggar bill (S. B. 290) last week, that the vote indicated controversial labor legislation will not be forced either by employer or labor representatives at the current session.

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# STATEMENT BY JOHN P. FREY ON N.L.R.B. ACTION IN KAISER SHIPYARD CASE

(Continued from Page One)

grossly unfair and partisan espousal of the C.I.O. and, at best, is an instance of a government agency obsessed with a dangerously narrow and legalistic approach.

[The second statement, which follows, was written by Mr. Frey in reply to an article which recently appeared in the Washington (D. C.) Star.]

By **JOHN P. FREY,**

President, Metal Trades Department, A.F.L.

To the Editor of the Star:

I have been out of the city and just now has your recent editorial concerning the National Labor Relations Board's case against Henry J. Kaiser come to my attention. You agree that a serious situation is presented, but contend that the trouble arises from the Wagner Act, and that the National Labor Relations Board cannot pursue any other course than it is pursuing, a course which already has caused a slackening of production in the Kaiser yards at Portland, Ore., and which, if persisted in, inevitably will lead to a tragic period of turmoil, agitation, bickering, and consequent disruption of vitally needed war production.

## Intent of Wagner Act

The board's attitude that it is forced to take the action it is taking is an amazing attitude; an attitude that has not been convincing to the representatives of the war production agencies who have importuned it; an attitude that is utterly wrong. It is based on a provision in the Wagner Act that an employee is guaranteed the right to join an organization of his choosing. The Congress of Industrial Organizations was not in existence at the time of the passage of the Wagner Act. The provision manifestly was intended to protect the employee against being forced into a "company union." That was the intent of the provision then, and the board knows that it is the intent of the provision today.

The fact is that the board has invariably so interpreted the provision when the American Federation of Labor was the petitioner. But it is also an outrageous fact that the board, from the inception of the Congress of Industrial Organizations has conceived one of its principal functions to be the advancement of that organization against the Federation. This it is seeking to do now. It is seeking to do this, not through any defect in the Wagner Act, but through an arrogant abuse of its authority to administer that Act.

You must not fall into the error of thinking or be

misled by the board into believing that its action was forced by unrest in the yards. Mr. Kaiser stated in New York a few weeks ago that the morale of his employees was at the highest. Manifest disgruntlement and uncertain morale now are developing.

The action of the board came solely on the representation of the Congress of Industrial Organizations shipyard workers' organization that they should be given the opportunity to organize these workers. They claim no substantial organization on the Pacific Coast now. Out of some 400,000 of such workers they claim only 18,000. On the other hand, we have had agreements with the Pacific Coast shipbuilders for some thirty-five years.

## Pact Urged by Official Agencies

The arrangement which we have now come through the stabilization agreement which we established in the spring of 1941. It was established under the supervision and at the urging of government agencies concerned. At one time when there was some question as to whether our unions would accept it, President Roosevelt urged them to do so. The heartfelt desire for this stabilized set-up was due, on my part, and on the part of others, to the troubles which existed in this industry in World War No. 1.

In pursuing our co-operation with the President we accepted, at Chicago in 1942, less wages than we were entitled to under the increased-cost-of-living provision of our contracts, in order not to endanger the inflation structure. We are the only organization to respond to the President's request for an around-the-clock, continuous use of available equipment and tools.

## An Incongruous Situation

A few weeks ago the citizens of Portland gathered at a testimonial dinner to pay tribute to the miracles of production which Edgar Kaiser and his father had accomplished. To this dinner, to add its meed of praise, the Maritime Commission sent its representative, John Carmody. Mr. Carmody said that no small part of the Kaisers' success was due to their employee relationship. A few blocks away the National Labor Relations Board was prosecuting the Kaisers for "unfair labor practices."

In the utterly untenable position in which the board has found itself, it has so grossly misrepresented the case as to reflect either rank incompetence or complete insincerity. It is not a case of simply ordering an election in a plant where labor relations are not yet stabilized. This is a deliberate attempt to tear up agreements of long and definite standing and leave the workers with no agreement of any kind—leaderless over a period of from six months to a year—the period which the board has indicated it would give the Congress of Industrial Organizations union an opportunity to organize them. During that period there would be the usual campaign of misrepresentation of both us and the employer; there would be bitter organizational strife.

Speaking for the Metal Trades Department of the

American Federation of Labor alone, we did not come into being via the sit-down strike. We have been long in existence. We have survived political parties and crackpot movements, and we will continue to survive them. We have not the slightest apprehension about the type of campaign the National Labor Relations Board would subject us to.

But our determination, first, is not to let the country be subjected to it, and secondly, not to permit a group of bureaucrats to take from us that which we had long before the Wagner Act or the National Labor Relations Board came along: the right to negotiate a contract with an employer, if we could. From the old order in which the employer continually was being damned for not negotiating with a union, the board now wants to damn him if he does and damn him if he doesn't. It seeks to create an utterly impossible situation for him.

## Professional Propagandists Err

I often doubt that the professional propagandists realize that organized labor has sons in the armed forces along with the sons of others and that these sons will be coming back along with those sons whom we are told intend to destroy organized labor. Anyway, that is the fact. And the sons of organized labor do not want the structure which they and their fathers and their grandfathers built up over a period of sixty years torn down in their absence.

Bear in mind, as serious as is the test around the Kaiser shipyards, it is but a skirmish planned by the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the Board to spread out into an embroilment involving the nation's shipbuilding industry as a whole.

The paramount question before the public at this time is whether the Board's action in stimulating raiding on the part of the Congress of Industrial Organizations will help the production of ships or hurt it.

JOHN P. FREY,  
President, Metal Trades Department,  
American Federation of Labor.

## Teamsters Make Blood Donation

The Red Cross Blood Procurement Center, at 2415 Jones street, which ordinarily is closed on Sundays, was kept open last Sunday to receive volunteer blood donations from members of Teamsters' Union No. 85.

Mrs. Gardner Dailey, director of the Center, stated that when there is a group donation of large size, and Sunday is the only day on which they can donate, the Center is glad to remain open, and she praised the mass act of the Teamsters as "an example of the splendid co-operation we have received from organized labor."

## PROPOSE FACTORY CANTEENS

Amendment of the industrial code to require factory canteens in war plants, expansion of the penny milk and school lunch programs and state inspection of the production and sale of vitamin pills and vitamin-enriched foods are among fifteen recommendations in a report submitted to the New York legislature by its joint committee on nutrition. The committee urged that food served in war plants not be included in rationing.

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# Ask Revision of W.L.B. Wage Formula

American Federation of Labor members of the War Labor Board last Tuesday took the initiative in calling upon the board to discard its "15 per cent" wage adjustment formula, adopt a new policy and guarantee decisions by majority rule within the board "without dictation" by any person or governmental agency.

## Dissatisfaction Mounts

Dissatisfaction has been increasing against the so-called formula almost from its promulgation, and more so as it became evident that control in living costs was not being held within the bounds that was anticipated when the wage formula was set forth. Adding to the dissatisfaction have been the delays which organizations have experienced in getting decisions from the board, once their case had been submitted.

Signers of the call for a new policy on the part of the W.L.B. were George Meany and Matthew Woll, secretary and vice-president, respectively, of the American Federation of Labor, and who hold full memberships on the War Labor Board as representatives of labor, and Martin P. Durkin, Louis Lopez and Fred Hewitt, alternate labor members representing the A.F.L. The petition which they presented to the board was summarized in the press dispatches as advocating the following:

## Summary of Proposals

1. Increase the allowance for maladjustments or increase in the cost of living from 15 per cent to a new, realistic figure based upon the actual cost of living to the worker.
2. Permit employers to apply the maladjustment principle thus modified without obtaining approval from the National War Labor Board.
3. Formulate and put into effect immediately a realistic wage policy which recognizes the existence of inequalities, sub-standard wages and the need to aid in the better prosecution of the war.

## Ask Rehearing on Two Cases

4. Set a date immediately for a rehearing of the packing house and West Coast aircraft cases in the light of the suggested new wage policy.
5. Guarantee that the right of the National War Labor Board to arrive at its own decisions on wage matters by the democratic process of majority rule shall be preserved without dictation by any person or governmental agency.

## The Airframe Plants Case

In the recent decision by the War Labor Board in the southern California airframe plants case, the vote was 7 to 5, with Dean Wayne L. Morse, public member, and the four labor members in the minority.

In a dissenting opinion which Dean Morse filed he outlined the various attempts of the Government to stabilize wages of the West Coast aircraft workers and declared that "it is impossible for the writer to escape the conclusion that if this dispute had been handled expeditiously, efficiently and in keeping with the practices which prevailed at the time the dispute arose, these workers would have received a general wage increase."

## Workers Entitled to Increase

Dean Morse said the workers were entitled to the increases recommended to the board by its investigator, Paul R. Porter. "Wage increases which go to workers' stomachs and to the necessities of life are not, in fact, inflationary," Morse declared.

He said the minority "have reached the conclusion that before the board proceeds to handle other major

cases affecting industry-wide wage problems, it should re-examine its wage policies in an endeavor to arrive at much clearer and more specific definitions of its wage-determining criteria so that it can once more present a united front on the problem."

## Labor Members Dissent

The dissenting opinion of the four labor members stated that "in view of what we deem to be board policy, and in the light of the highly persuasive record, we believe that the workers involved in this case should have been granted a general increase of at least 10 cents an hour."

The labor members declared the board majority had applied the board's wage stabilization policies "in a manner quite inconsistent with its previous practice."

The 15-per-cent cost-of-living formula is not applicable to this case because there are four times as many employees in the industry as there were in January, 1941, resulting in extraordinary changes in the occupational composition of the work force, the labor members said. In such circumstances in the past, the Board "has generally ruled that the maladjustment or 'Little Steel' formula is not applicable," their opinion found.

## "Rule of Thumb"

The labor members said the board majority had developed "a rule of thumb . . . that the wage differentials existing on or about January, 1941, are 'historical,' 'usual,' 'reasonable' or 'established' and will not be disturbed."

"It appears to us that no one acquainted with economic realities can seriously so contend," they added. "Such a rule ignores the fact that trade union organization was making tremendous strides during the last decade toward bringing some reason and justice into economic relations between management and labor. Such a rule effects a 'freeze' more fundamental, more regressive, than a rigid and inflexible application of the 'Little Steel' formula. Such a rule sacrifices justice and equity to administrative convenience. We submit that the board must abandon that rule. The rectification of inequalities should be based on an examination of present relations between wage rates and the justifications therefor. The historical aspect of those relations is only one factor, and a minor factor, in determining the equity of present differentials."

## SOME PRODUCTION FACTS

Hours worked per week in the metal products industries per wage earner reached 47.9 in January, 1943, while the average hours per week of plant utilization was 70.8. Munitions production index moved from 100 as of November, 1941, to 497 in December, 1942.

## "V" TAB DELIVERY DELAY

It is stated some auto owners probably will not receive their 1943 "V" tabs for placing on the old license plates until well into May. Pending delivery of tabs and new registration cards, car owners were advised to safeguard the blue receipt given to them when they paid the 1943 renewal fees.

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# President Congratulates Workers for Speedy Job

President Roosevelt sent a congratulatory message to the A.F.L. workers who completed the construction of the new Douglas Dam of the T.V.A. in thirteen months—half the scheduled time.

Describing the construction as an engineering feat, the President lauded "the engineers and workmen who have labored day and night through storm and heat and flood."

"This dedication," he said, "honors every man or woman working with pen or shovel or machine who made it possible to shorten by half the time required for completion of this huge structure."

"We honor the men who have worked in plants and factories throughout the country where the materials that will forever be a part of Douglas Dam have been produced."

"We honor their work and we dedicate their achievement to a single purpose. Until this war is won, every kilowatt of power their skill and energy and complete devotion has provided will be used to make more planes, more tanks and more explosives—the implements of war for our men overseas."

"Let our enemies take note. Douglas Dam shows what a democracy can do."

# War Department Workers Are Free to Join Unions

War Department employees have the right to join any union or group which has for its purpose improvement of their working conditions, without interference, coercion, restraint, or fears of discrimination or reprisal because of such membership. This was included in the department's enunciation of its employee relations policy.

The right to join any group may be exercised individually or collectively through committees of employees selected by the employees themselves.

Also, employees may be canvassed for membership in employee organizations at the station of employment when the canvassing is conducted outside of working hours, and, wherever feasible, official leave will be granted to union representatives for the purpose of attending conferences with administrative officials.

When a consumer buys non-union products he siphons union wages out of the reservoir of "fair" employers.

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## LABOR CLARION

Published Weekly by the  
SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL

Office, 101 Labor Temple, 2940 Sixteenth St.  
San Francisco, California  
Telephone - HEMlock 3924

W. N. MAPPIN, Editor and Manager

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

	Year
Single subscriptions.....	\$1.50
To unions, each subscription.....	1.00
(When subscribing for entire membership)	
Single copies.....	.05

Changes of address or additions to union mail lists must come through the secretary of each organization. Members are notified that this is obligatory.

Entered as second-class matter August 10, 1918, at the post office at San Francisco, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1943

### About "Work or Fight"

The "work or fight" slogan which has been, and yet continues to be, shouted by certain of the spokesmen for anti-labor groups carries a meaning that is repulsive to those who regard the U. S. fighting forces with reverence.

It is beyond conception that the military arm of the nation should be regarded by anyone as a fit place for those who are deemed "slackers" in line of duty or who require punishment for any "crime" they may have committed.

There was a time in history, and not so long ago, when court judges took upon themselves to, at least indirectly, "sentence" convicted men to join the military forces or the crews of merchant ships. The resentment that came from both the Army and the Navy, and the men on merchant vessels, against such practices is now well known and accomplished practical results. The declaration was made that the armed forces were not penal institutions, and a system was inaugurated—or, rather, strictly enforced—that applicants for voluntary enlistment must come with clean records.

The anti-labor crowd, in their eagerness to make effective their peculiar economic ideas and plans, appear to have overlooked the above-noted facts, or are attempting to bring about a return to former practices, with utter disregard of the high standard established for the Army and Navy personnel.

If the anti-labor forces know of anyone who has committed an act which is punishable under any existing law, let them make complaint and deliver the one deemed guilty to the authorities. But when they attempt to carry on a "work or fight" campaign they are insulting every soldier and sailor now defending the nation, and the members of the families of every such soldier and sailor.

If the reactionary groups feel that they must persist in attacking union labor—that is the real motive of those who adopted the "work or fight" cry—they should do so without attempted deception and without wrapping themselves in "patriotism." They are not fooling anyone. But they should have some regard for the reputation and honor of service men, and their families on the home front, when they issue instructions to their propagandists to coin a new slogan to replace "work or fight."

### A Workable Formula Needed

"If the founding fathers of the American republic were here today they would be compelled to re-examine their conception of freedom in the light of historical developments," declares Dean Gordon S. Watkins of the college of letters and science at U.C.L.A. Dean Watkins continued:

"Friends of freedom cannot view with indifference the current trend toward extreme statism and totalitarianism, because in that direction lies the end of

liberty as Anglo-Saxons have known it in Great Britain and the United States.

"A too little stressed fact in the experience of modern nations during recent decades is the apparent willingness of men and women to exchange freedom for seeming security. That is perhaps the most notable fact in the history of Germany under national socialism and of Italy under fascism.

"Unless we can find a workable formula for the reconciliation of liberty and security, the problems of the post-war world may be overwhelming.

"The road to a better world is not through the doors that would return mankind to the absolute freedom that in both political and economic life degenerated into license. A better world is possible only if freedom and security are reasonable and intelligent—that is, when they rest upon a balance of rights, privileges and responsibilities. In short, freedom and security must be associated with morality.

"Considerable vigilance will be necessary if our people are not to recreate on this side of the Atlantic what we are fighting to destroy on the other side."

### Columnist Administers Rebuke

Dorothy Thompson, noted newspaper columnist, has courageously denounced Capt. "Eddie" Rickenbacker as a spokesman for those "who are seeking to take advantage of this war to crush labor unions." Miss Thompson covered the subject in two articles in her column, which is a regular feature in various metropolitan newspapers, in the course of which she stated, in part:

"Although he denies it in words, he attacks the very basis of organized labor; those laws which seek to bring some order and stability to the rights of workers, organized or unorganized; and the whole structure which makes labor organization possible."

"And for all the faults in our war production, he blames the workers and blames them exclusively."

"Captain Rickenbacker's speeches are of an agitational nature. Far from contributing to the morale of workers in war plants, they are riling them exceedingly. Their effect is to divide the nation three ways—into workers versus other classes, and into soldiers versus civilians. Such division is dangerous.

It gives rise to suspicion and distrust, and puts the Army apart from the population into a separate class."

"While our men are fighting in Africa and the Pacific, Captain Rickenbacker is organizing their lives for them on their return. He is planning that they shall be used to break the trade union system."

"The men in the hell holes doing the fighting are not largely corporation executives. They are mostly the sons of American workers."

"Certainly, when the soldier comes back to the nation, which he has risked his life to protect, he will demand a share in the wealth of that nation. \* \* \* And he certainly won't get it if he is aligned against the workers who were kept at home."

"Captain Rickenbacker's complaints are all class conscious. He objects to workers profiteering on the war. But there is profiteering on this war in many places. One difficulty in putting a ceiling on wages is that the workers know perfectly well that in many war industries the executives have upped their salaries enormously. Captain Rickenbacker does not believe in restrictions on these salaries, because he says that it destroys incentive and initiative. Is incentive only to be found in executives?"

"We must know what the word 'American' means. We must remember that this country from its inception has based its citizenship on spirit—not on birth. No matter how many generations they may have lived here, none who advocate a denial of the Bill of Rights to any group are Americans. We must never forget that those who bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and who willingly and faithfully support and defend it are Americans—regardless of class, creed or color." —Ruth Taylor.

## The Beveridge Plan

[The following resume, in general terms, of the social insurance plan for Britain recently proposed by Sir William Beveridge was written by Walter MacArthur, well known veteran in the labor movement of San Francisco and former official of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific.]

"The scheme proposed here is in some ways a revolution, but in more important ways it is a natural development from the past. It is a British revolution."

In these words Sir William Beveridge describes the plan for social security now pending in Parliament. Briefly stated, the Beveridge Plan covers the entire population of Britain and provides for a flat rate of contributions and benefits, regardless of means.

### Based on Existing System

The tripartite scheme of contributions is based on the system established by British law in 1911. That scheme has been in force for thirty years and has won general acceptance.

Contributions, payable weekly, are estimated as follows (with approximate U. S. equivalents on the basis of four dollars to the pound sterling):

Men, 21 years and up.....	4s. 3d. (\$1.00)
Employer, per each employee.....	3s. 3d. (.66)
Women, 21 years and up.....	3s. 6d. (.66)
Employer, per each employee.....	2s. 6d. (.52)

### New Services Proposed

Benefits under the Beveridge plan provide certain important changes and extensions in all the existing social services, and introduce several new features. These include free medical and hospital treatment, children's allowances, special benefits for housewives, funeral grant, marriage grant, maternity grant, widow's grant, dependent's allowances and guardian's grant.

Workmen's Compensation laws will come under the new scheme, which will be administered by a new department to be known as the Ministry of Social Service, with local offices throughout the country.

Benefits will be paid from a fund created by the sale of insurance stamps representing the contributions of employees and employers respectively, plus a contribution by the national exchequer estimated at one-third of the total fund.

### Full Benefits in 1965

Full pensions will become payable after a "transition period" of twenty years (1965) at the basic weekly rate of \$8, joint, for man and wife and \$4.80, single. Meanwhile, the rates of pension payable under the present laws will be paid. Work may be continued after reaching retirement age (65 years for men, and 60 years for women), in which case the amount of pension will be increased proportionately.

The Beveridge Plan supersedes the present system of Approved Societies, but retains the powers of the Friendly Societies and Trade Unions which pay sickness benefits. The "means test" is abolished. Special provisions are made for merchant seamen and those engaged in "hazardous" employment. The new plan will take effect on July 1, 1944, and the first full year of benefits will be the calendar year 1945.

## W.L.B. Drops Strike Data

Statistics on strikes in war industries will no longer be issued by the National War Labor Board. The board announced this was because "the war effort now affects nearly every industry, and the ratio of man days lost through strikes to the total time worked in industry is virtually the same in war industries as in non-war industries."

Figures on strikes will hereafter be issued by the U. S. Labor Department's bureau of labor statistics, but they will not differentiate between war and other industries, the W.L.B. said.

The sub-standard-wages of sweatshops receive the greatest support from those who insist upon buying non-union products.



# Labor Groups Express Views on Austin-Wadsworth Bill

National service legislation, such as the Austin-Wadsworth "draft labor" bill, is a dangerous, desperate and impractical method of solving America's manpower problems, a joint A.F.L.-C.I.O. committee declared.

The group, made up of the labor members of the management-labor policy committee of the War Manpower Commission, presented its views in the following statement:

We have read with some surprise newspaper reports of a letter sent by Secretary of War Stimson to the chairman of the Senate military affairs committee endorsing in effect the Austin-Wadsworth bill to draft American labor. The indorsement of this bill is surprising because the manpower problem is so pressing and widespread and the Austin-Wadsworth bill so obviously offers no solution to the basic planning to meet the manpower problem.

## War Secretary's Support Regrettable

It is particularly regrettable that the name and office of the Secretary of War be used in support of the widely propagandized Austin-Wadsworth bill at a time when there is before Congress the Tolan-Kilgore-Pepper war mobilization bill which actually does strike at the heart of the war production problem and which offers a fundamentally sound solution to our manpower needs.

The basic approach to our manpower difficulties must obviously seek the most effective utilization of the manpower available in the nation. Effective utilization of our manpower must mean that we know what manpower we need and where we need it. It must mean that we know how many men and women we need in each area and each occupation

and how many men and women will be needed over the future months. This must mean, of course; the kind of overall planning and programming which can make these needs known and plan appropriate steps for filling them.

## Demands of the Situation

Meeting our manpower difficulties means the kind of planning which allocates contracts to the areas where the labor supply problem can be met, the kind of planning which makes sure that meeting the labor supply problem will not raise housing and transportation difficulties, the kind of planning which makes sure that workers on the jobs in which they are now employed are employed under conditions which utilize their highest possible skills, the kind of planning which arranges for training programs to produce the kinds of skills needed at the places where they are needed.

The War Manpower Commission has been struggling valiantly to meet all of these many facets of the manpower problem. But there are aspects of this problem which are beyond the control of the Manpower Commission. Workers have been brought to areas where labor supply is needed, only to find that there is no housing for them in the area and no transportation to carry them to plants. Contracts have been allocated and war industries extended or established in areas incapable of meeting the manpower difficulties and the housing, transportation, drinking water, sanitation and food distribution needs. Defects in programming of production at various stages has resulted in temporary layoffs for lack of some necessary material in the productive processes.

Under all these circumstances it is difficult to see how there can be any notion that the nation's manpower difficulties can be met simply by a labor draft measure such as the Austin-Wadsworth bill. This bill makes no suggestion of any plan. It makes no provision of any central co-ordination and civilian control of the production and planning of manpower agencies of the nation. It calls for nothing but the power to draft labor at a time when the exercise of that power may simply make matters worse by continuing to draft labor without co-ordinated production and civilian economy planning.

The Tolan-Kilgore-Pepper bill, on the other hand, by suggesting a central co-ordinated and civilian control of our manpower production, civilian economy, and technological mobilization agencies, does offer the kind of approach to our manpower difficulties which promises a sound solution. It offers the kind of approach which our armed forces should certainly welcome as a final overall total mobilization of the civilian economy in support of our war effort.

## "Measure of Desperation"

The Austin-Wadsworth bill is in effect a measure of desperation. The Tolan-Kilgore-Pepper bill is a program of constructive solution. The issue is not at all compulsion as against a voluntary program. The issue is whether we are to approach our inter-related production and manpower problems on a basis of planned organization or whether we are simply to exercise power without planning and understanding. Under these conditions, labor will vigorously oppose the Austin-Wadsworth bill as a blow against rather than an aid to the war program.

## American Workers Called Upon to Sit in Judgment

By PHILIP PEARL, in A.F.L. News Service

The Supreme Court of the United States had a tough decision to make the other day. It involved the conviction of George Sylvester Vieri, a known pro-Nazi, who was found guilty of spreading Hitler's doctrine in this country—with the aid of some Congressmen, let it be said.

In reviewing the case, the Supreme Court found that the letter of the law had not been complied with in Vieri's trial. So, despite the fact that we are engaged in a desperate war against Hitler, the court threw out the conviction of his advocate.

We can imagine the jeering contempt with which the Nazis in Germany greeted this verdict. They consider us softies for our strict regard for law. But we in America can be proud of this decision. In it lives and breathes the spirit of justice.

## Vital Test of Justice

Now every American worker is called upon to sit in judgment upon a case that presents an even greater test of justice than that which confronted the Supreme Court.

We refer to the execution by the Soviet government of Henryk Erlich and Victor Alter, labor leaders, who were active in the anti-Nazi, Jewish underground movement in Poland.

Let us constitute ourselves a court to examine the evidence and the issues presented by this case. After all, in America the court of public opinion is the real supreme court.

The evidence at hand is fragmentary, we must admit. We do not know how Erlich and Alter fell into the hands of the Soviet government. We do not know the testimony submitted against them. We don't even know the exact charges against them, except rather vaguely that they were accused of collaborating with Hitler.

But we do know this: That these men were sincere Jews, that they were sincere Socialists, that they were

sincere trade unionists, and that they had conducted a constant underground drive against Hitler in Poland at great risk to their own lives.

How, under such circumstances, they could be found guilty of aiding Hitler is beyond our comprehension.

But we do know that they were convicted and executed. We do know that they are now dead.

And it is our duty to judge not the victims but the kind of government, the kind of justice, that could condemn them.

In so doing, we must first acknowledge that the Soviet government is our ally in this war. The people of Russia and the armies of Russia have put up an inspired resistance against the armed might of Hitler. Their fight is our fight in this war.

## A Warning for the Future

These facts make it extremely difficult for us to render a decision based on justice and frankness, rather than upon expediency. It would be easy to say that Stalin's business is his own and none of ours. It would be simpler to wash our hands of the whole business and to forget about it.

But we cannot forget. We cannot acquiesce to murder without becoming accessories.

To us it seems unmistakable that Erlich and Alter were executed not for collaborating with Hitler but because their political and trade-union beliefs made it impossible for them to stomach Stalinism, which once operated in partnership with Hitlerism.

We can understand the type of reasoning which would consider anyone in Stalin's jurisdiction who opposed him guilty of being pro-Nazi. But we cannot agree with such reasoning any more than we could convict an American of treason merely because he disagreed with President Roosevelt.

## Bloody Hands Exposed

The murder of Erlich and Alter exposes the bloody hands of the Soviet government. It exposes the intellectual slavery of the so-called labor movement of Soviet Russia which failed to voice a protest. It is a warning to us for the future.

This may be considered brutal frankness. But when it comes to frankness, we take off our hat to Admiral

## Surveys on Absenteeism In War Production Plants

Speaking on the subject of absenteeism in war production plants, Secretary Frances Perkins, in a recent radio address, stated reports to the Labor Department show that fatigue, eye strain, poor ventilation, poor heat and sanitation and improper food facilities are all factors which increase the number of workdays lost due to illness which, combined with accidents, is responsible for 90 per cent of absenteeism.

"We have made two surveys of the absenteeism problem, one in commercial shipyards and the other in airframe plants," she said. "These show that since April last absenteeism in commercial shipyards has averaged a little less than 7½ per cent and that since last January it has averaged 6.4 per cent in airframe plants. As to the volume of absenteeism, no one has adequate records, but here are some rates recently reported to me by large war contracts plants: 4.01 per cent, 2.43 per cent, 3.5 per cent, 3 per cent, 6.9 per cent and 2.5 per cent."

Secretary Perkins also cited the experience in reducing the accident rate in plants which used the technical services of U. S. Labor Department safety engineers. She gave as an example an industry which had been having 150 accidents for every 1,000,000 man-hours worked and which cut this to 10 per 1,000,000 man-hours.

## TRAFFIC LAW CITATIONS

During 1942 California Highway Patrol officers issued 376,313 citations. Of the total, 166,678 required the offenders to appear in court and the remaining 209,635 were warning citations.

William H. Standley, United States Ambassador to Russia, who stood up on his hind legs in Moscow and announced for all the world to hear that Stalin has deliberately withheld from the Russian people any mention of the considerable aid this country has given Russia in the war effort.



## Margaret Bondfield Tells Of Britain in War Time

The San Francisco Labor Council, at its meeting last week, heard an interesting address by Miss Margaret Bondfield, long prominent in the trade union movement of England and the first woman to become a member of the Privy Council of Britain. The speaker's address was solely informative and, as stated at its outset, her visit to the United States had for its purpose the acquainting of our people with the problems of British labor in war time and what it has at stake. Upon retiring at the close of her remarks she made graceful acknowledgment of the delegates' applause.

Topics which she reviewed included the general labor situation in the British Isles; the innumerable changes affecting the health and general welfare of industrial workers; how agriculture had to be completely reorganized to save it from bankruptcy; the organization of hostels; the entertainment of the people, and of how many spent their leisure time in study groups.

### Praise for Women

The women in the "land army" have been magnificent, she declared, further stating that their capacity for taking over in this vital work for the nation's welfare was unlimited. They have proven themselves especially successful in dairying and forestry.

At harvest time, nearly everyone who has a pair of hands is fitted into place—the old and young, lawyers, policemen, soldiers from the home camps—all being organized and directed through the employment agencies, and it was no unusual sight to see policemen digging potatoes in famed Hyde Park.

The food supply is closely watched, to the end of having proper distribution and assuring that all shall be properly fed. Perishable food is used first and that which will keep is held until vitally needed.

### Transported Children

Miss Bondfield said that city children who have been sent into the rural areas, as a precautionary policy against the dangers of bombing in the more populated districts, are learning to love their new surroundings, and there is observed in all of them an immense improvement both physically and mentally.

Of the labor movement, the speaker said that the unions in the agricultural field have increased in numerical strength and power. Other groups mentioned were the transport workers, general workers, dock workers and the service trades. Some organiza-

tions assist in rehabilitation of disabled members and also provide medical service.

Labor organizations also have established committees to forward production in various industries and this effort has proven 75 per cent successful in its aims. The selection of members of these committees is done with the greatest of care, and the honor of service thereon brings forth some interesting and keen contests in the union elections.

Touching upon the Beveridge social security plan, recently submitted to Parliament, the speaker advised that those interested in making a study of its proposals should read only a few pages at a time in order to grasp the full significance of its outlook into the future.

### Replies to Questions

At the conclusion of her address, Miss Bondfield readily yielded to questions from the delegates. Asked as to what has been done in England about moving men from so-called non-essential to essential industries and their replacement by women, she stated that all men between 18 and 45 are under an order which regulates their occupation, and over 9,500,000 women are now employed in essential war work. To a query as to how much of the mobility of manpower and womanpower is voluntary and how much is directed, she replied that all is by designated authority. Under the "essential work order" of July, 1941, men and women were sealed in their positions. However, of the total number involved, only 3 per cent had made request for change. Unmarried women are drafted the same as men, but perhaps have a wider choice of fields. To a question whether women receive equal pay with men for jobs taken over in all classifications, the answer was that the unions have negotiated an "equal wage" policy, but if women require additional supervision they receive seven-eighths of the wage rate until the supervision is no longer needed, after which they are paid the full rate.

### Federation Office at Capital

Offices have been opened in Sacramento by the California State Federation of Labor, at the Senator hotel (Rooms 227-228), for the present session of the Legislature. Representatives of the Railroad Brotherhoods are sharing the office with the Federation.

### Mrs. Rosseter Leaves N.L.R.B.

Announcement was made last week that Mrs. Alice Rosseter, regional National Labor Relations Board director for the past eight years, with headquarters in San Francisco, will take a position with the War Relief Control Board, which body acts as a clearing house for supervision of collection of relief funds for the Allied Nations. Leslie Lubliner will be acting regional director pending formal appointment of a successor to Mrs. Rosseter.

Today! Buy U. S. War Bonds and Savings Stamps!

## Death Calls Two Veteran Members of Janitors No. 9

Theater and Amusement Janitors No. 9 this week suffered the loss of two of its veteran and staunch members, within two days, when death called Charles Frank and Charles Stevenson. It was only recently that the union had paid tribute, at a special meeting, to those who had pioneered in its early work and these two members were among those present and given honor by International Vice-President Charles Hardy, of the Building Service Employees, who officiated at the ceremonies.

### Charles Frank

The final summons came to Charles Frank on Tuesday, very suddenly, and was a distinct shock to his friends, as seemingly he had been in the best of health. The deceased, who was a native of New York, was well known, having represented his organization in the San Francisco Labor Council for over seventeen years. He had been a member of No. 9 since 1906 and was employed many years in the old Orpheum Theater. He often recalled the incidents in the theatrical field following the great fire, including the work in tents and other makeshift housing of that time. Recently, Frank had been elected a member of the executive board for his eighteenth term. Also he was a delegate to the California Council of Building Service Employees, and a member of the Theatrical Mutual Association.

Surviving are his widow, Delia Frank; one son, Howard, and a granddaughter, Patricia Lee. The funeral, at Duggan's parlors, will be held this (Friday) morning at 9 o'clock, and interment will be in Holy Cross cemetery.

### Charles Stevenson

The passing of Charles Stevenson occurred on Monday and followed a heart attack. He had passed the allotted "three score and ten," and had retired from active employment some two years ago. For some twelve years prior to his retirement he had been on the janitorial force of the Labor Temple.

He was born in Wales, and after coming to this country became a member of the Knights of Labor and joined with fellow workers in Detroit in organizing the Street Carmen's Union there. Coming to California later, he participated in organizing the San Francisco street carmen.

### Advice of a Veteran

A strike by the new organization was unsuccessful and he affiliated with the old Janitors' Union No. 10367, where he served in every office of that local. His advice, as expressed at the special meeting above mentioned, was that union members should not "sell out" their brothers, that they should do their talking in union meeting and not to their employers, and, above all, "treat your union as you would like to be treated."

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Kate B. Stevenson; a daughter, Mrs. Eva Lunger, and two stepchildren, Earl and Irene Cook. He was a member of the I.O.O.F. and I.O.F. Funeral services were held Wednesday, at the Anderson parlors, and interment was in Cypress Lawn.

Secretary Charles Hardy of No. 9 declared that the passing of the two pioneer members was deeply felt, in that they had fought and held the organization together through depressions and against the attacks of its enemies, but it was pleasing to know they had lived to see its triumph and the standing which it now enjoys.

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## Jewelry Workers' Official Returns from Eastern Trip

George F. Allen, business representative of the local jewelers' and watchmakers' unions, and who is a vice-president of the International Jewelry Workers' Union, returned to San Francisco last Monday after attending a meeting of the general executive board of his international union in New York City.

He states that information which came to the executive board from Washington led its members to believe that the jewelry industry will not be entirely closed down, as had seemed imminent.

### Encouraging Situation

"It is the executive board's opinion," Allen said, "that precious gold, which is 10 karats or over, will be curtailed to 75 per cent of the finished weight of the 1941 precious gold production figures. The board is confident this allotment will keep our industry and union alive for the duration. Restrictions on the use of base metal, silver and platinum have left the industry only the precious gold jewelry to depend upon. Large jewelry manufacturers and manufacturers' associations have commended our union for the constructive and efficient manner in which it presented the industry's problems to Washington officials. The W.P.B. now has allowed the clock manufacturers to produce 1,500,000 alarm clocks. You may look for these new war-time alarm clocks some time around the end of April or the first of June."

### Visits Waltham Plant

Allen states that General President Williams of the international union informed the executive board that he intends to visit the Pacific Coast within the next few months. Further discussing his trip, he said that he visited the Waltham watch factory in Massachusetts, whose output is the only 100 per cent union watch product on the market today, though the factory is now devoted entirely to war work. He declared that the 2500 workers in the plant are doing a magnificent job in their new field, also that the labor-management committee at Waltham's is really a success—"and when the war is over and victory is ours every union member should give support to and purchase the Waltham product."

### Conditions in Eastern Cities

Allen also visited Boston, Providence and Philadelphia. Of his general observations on conditions he said: "With the exception of gasoline and fuel oil shortages, the general public on the east coast are not experiencing anything near the shortages we in San Francisco have to contend with. Take one common, everyday item—chewing gum. In San Francisco, Wrigley's chewing gum is practically unobtainable. In New York City one can buy that product at the cigar and newspaper stands, and the 5 and 10-cent stores are selling Wrigley's at three packages for 12 cents."

Allen's mother, who resides in Camden, N. J., told him she had no trouble getting meat until the first week in March, and even then she could get meat but not the kind she wanted.

Discovering that Chicago had no dim-out regulations, Allen said he spent two hours walking around down town just to see the lights, which he found blinding after having for so long experienced the night regulations in San Francisco. New York has the dim-out, and to Allen it seemed to produce greater darkness than we have locally, which fact

he attributed to the greater number of high buildings in the metropolis.

Returning via Seattle and Portland, Allen said that in those cities he found conditions resulting from war conditions about the same as in San Francisco, but there seemed to be a larger supply of meat than is available here.

As a whole, Allen said the trip was highly enjoyable and that he was accorded wonderful treatment, notwithstanding he experienced a two-hour train delay with the thermometer at 97 degrees, and another in Minnesota, where the mercury stood at 12 below—remembering which he "was glad to get back to San Francisco and be greeted by the good old fog."

## Joint Committee Summoned

President Shelley has called a joint meeting of the executive committee and the law and legislative committee of the San Francisco Labor Council for next Wednesday evening, March 24, to consider the proposal for purchase by the city of the Market Street Railway lines. Complete copies of the proposal have been forwarded to each member of the two committees, and all are urged in an accompanying communication to be present. The meeting will convene at 8 p. m. in the Theodore Johnson Library at the Labor Temple.

## New Arrival at the Johns Home

Her name is Susan Elizabeth Johns, and she has taken up residence at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Johns, following announcement of her arrival at the Children's hospital on Sunday of last week. Mother and child are reported doing well. The father radiates his happiness at the event, among a wide circle of acquaintances, wherein he is known particularly as the very active business representative of the Retail Cigar and Liquor Clerks' Union, also as a member of the executive committee of the San Francisco Labor Council. Little Miss Susan Elizabeth is the second child of the happy parents.

## Will Hold Open House, Sunday

Elaborate preparations are being made for the Red Cross disaster relief stations open house to be held next Sunday afternoon, March 21, from 1 to 4 o'clock.

Each district group will stage one or more "incidents," and the various sections—medical, survey, welfare and information, first aid, rescue, transportation, communications—will show the public how they would go into action in the event of disaster.

The five district stations holding open house next Sunday are at the following locations: Mission High School, Lowell High School, San Francisco Junior College, Galileo High School and Grace Cathedral.

### OF NO VALUE IN WAR WORK

If you have been saving canceled postage stamps in the belief that the dye is of value in war work, save yourself the trouble. According to the U. S. Bureau of Standards, approximately 1,300,000 such stamps would be required for the extraction of one pound of dye, which in an uncontaminated condition would have a market value of about \$1.

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## American Labor Greet Ibanez, Chilean Leader

A young man from Chile—he is only 38—is declared to have captured the respect and admiration of American labor leaders at a series of conferences in the nation's capital designed to cement closer relations among the organized labor movements of the Western Hemisphere.

He is Bernardo Ibanez, general secretary of the Chilean Confederation of Workers, now visiting this country at the invitation of A.F.L. President Green and C.I.O. President Murray.

Senor Ibanez gave expression to his views at a press conference and at a luncheon in his honor given by the A.F.L. and the C.I.O. before he set out on an inspection tour of war production centers.

He emphasized that the Chilean Confederation of Workers had been the strongest factor in putting pressure on the Chilean government to break off relations with the Axis and join the family of United Nations.

Throughout Latin America, he said, organized labor is the bulwark of democracy and the chief foe of fascism.

Much remains to be done, he warned, in the organization of Latin American workers into free and democratic trade union movements. Working and living conditions of labor in most South American nations is still at a terribly low level and industry is conducted on a feudalistic basis, he said.

Relations between the United States and South America would be vastly improved, Senor Ibanez suggested, if labor organizations in this country would extend a helping hand to their fellow workers "south of the border."

This can be done, he declared, through the formation of an active and aggressive inter-American federation of labor which would provide a medium for full exchange of information and a broad program of action.

## South of Market Girls' Event

Woodward's Gardens, a famed meeting place for fun-loving San Franciscans in the "Gay 90s," will live again in song, story and dance next Friday evening, March 26, when the South of Market Girls present "St. Patrick's Day in Woodward's Gardens."

Mary Conroy is the general committee chairman, Mae O'Keefe is in charge of entertainment, and they are aided by the following in perfecting the program: Mesdames Margaret Holz, Annie Linn, Margaret Walters, Mary Hennessy, Josephine Hay, Tessie McGillicuddy, Harriet Cate, Ethel Wiedeman, Elizabeth Mullins, Lillian O'Leary, Edna Molloy, Josephine Grover, Florence Holian, Anna Conboy and Elizabeth Hayes.

Uncle Sam's grocery bill for feeding enlisted men runs to \$2,800,000 a day—at the rate of 56 cents a day for each Army man.

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## Run o' the Hook

By FRED E. HOLDERBY

President of Typographical Union No. 21

Speaking of the recent arbitration proceedings between the Bookbinders' Union and the San Francisco Printing Trades Conference, and the recommendation by Commissioner George Cheney to the War Labor Board that an increase of 12 cents an hour be awarded the Bookbinders' Union, the *Pacific Printer and Publisher* this month states that L. A. Ireland, manager of the Conference, is preparing briefs to present the matter to the War Labor Board for further consideration.

Chairman K. D. Kuhlitz of the Kennedy-ten Bosch chapel is another of our members to go on defense work. He started on Monday of this week with the Bethlehem shipyards, on electrical work.

Clive Atherton arrived in San Francisco last Friday from Honolulu, where he has held the position of foreman of the commercial department of the *Star-Bulletin* for the past three years. Clive shipped out of this port for a number of years as printer on different vessels until he was taken ashore in a critical condition in Honolulu over three years ago. After an appendectomy and four months' stay in a hospital before he had recovered his health, he decided to remain in the Paradise of the Pacific, and has been through fifteen months of blackout following the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor.

W. D. Ward of the *Shopping News* left last Monday for a vacation of one week.

Jere Heilman, retired member of No. 21 and formerly of the *Chronicle* proofroom, has been having trouble with his eyes and for the past two weeks has been confined to his home.

Sergeant J. J. ("Johnny") Sullivan writes his fellow workers on the *Chronicle* that all is well with him. He is presently stationed at Fort Ord.

Falco Fiaccadori, formerly with the Osborne chapel and recently on defense work, has been called for service in the Army, and left last Monday for the Presidio of Monterey.

Joseph Giovannini received an honorable discharge from the Army on March 2, and is back on his situation at the *Monitor*, where he served as chairman prior to being called for service.

J. C. Gardelius, apprentice at the Mercury Press until last September, when he left for defense work at Richmond, is now a soldier in the Army and left for duty at Monterey last Tuesday.

Cold-vaccine treatments have been made available to members of the *Chronicle* chapel by the management. It is reported that about half the composing room force have taken advantage of this opportunity to forestall colds.

Al Grimwood, *Chronicle* operator, after a week at home battling an attack of influenza, returned to his machine this week.

Gordon McLeod, son of Secretary M. B. MacLeod of San Francisco Typographical Union, received notice this week of his induction into the armed forces. MacLeod had entered the University of California this term and completed the first semester, but had not started the second, as he had been informed he would be called at an early date. He left yesterday for the Presidio of Monterey to go into training.

Mrs. Martha Darrow, a member of Woman's Auxiliary to the Typographical Union, passed away in this city on March 11. Deceased was the wife of the late William S. Darrow, secretary of San Jose Typographical Union at the time of his death in 1935, and founder and president of the California Conference of Typographical Unions. Funeral services were conducted on Tuesday afternoon, March 16, at the Julius S. Godeau chapel, 41 Van Ness avenue.

### Shopping News Chapel Notes

By G. E. Mitchell, Jr.

John F. Dalton, newly appointed Labor Commissioner for the State of California, called last week to visit with chapel members. "Jack," as he is familiarly known to thousands of I.T.U. members, told us his main activities would be centered around the main office, which is located in the State building in the

Civic Center. Part of Jack's duties will be spent in travel and inspection of the various offices of the commission scattered over the State.

Frank N. win ("Bill Nye"), who recently returned from the Home, called in to visit with chapel members and pass along word of the chapel's member, Park W. Patton, now a resident of the Home, as well as news of other familiar ones presently living in the 1 cm. Frank is the picture of health, and for a man in his 80s, we'll say Frank looks like a man of 55. Frank solicited support for the Home's pinochle tournament fund, and the chapel went down on the list to a man—100 per cent. We're very proud of that record. Frank told us "Pat" Pattison is now official distributor of newspapers for Home residents, which compels Pat to arise somewhat earlier than the rest of the residents.

Herbert Comer, the apprentice who finished his I.T.U. Course of Lessons in Printing ere his entry into the armed forces, wrote chapel members a splendid letter from Greenboro, N. C. Herb tells us he is now engaged in building a new cantonment, in the rain and mud, and he actually likes the going—what with felling trees, wiping mud off his shoes and uniform and other inconveniences unknown to city folk.

### Woman's Auxiliary, No. 21—By Mable A. Skinner

S.F.W.A. held its regular monthly business meeting last Tuesday. There was a very good attendance, possibly due to the fact that we had nomination of international officers. Mrs. Merritt, president, and Margaret Littlejohn, secretary, were unopposed. Joseph Clawson, printer first class, was present, and upon request explained the meaning of the ribbons he was wearing. Mr. Clawson is a veteran of the Solomon Islands campaign, and was transferred from the "Hornet" a short time before it was lost. Joseph Bailey, secretary of the Allied Printing Trades Council, also was present and reported upon the accomplishments of the Allied on non-label printing. President Louise A. Abbott had a birthday Tuesday, so Mrs. Eula Edwards presented her with a lovely birthday cake, which we all enjoyed.

Plans for the rummage sale to be held on March 25, 26 and 27, at 1547 Ellis street, are well under way. Transportation is the main problem—members have articles for the sale but no way to get them there. If any member has an extra gallon of gas, please contact Mrs. Eula Edwards (Underhill 8944). The store will be open next Wednesday evening, the 24th. Old curtains, materials or anything you have will be welcome. Don't forget that the sale opens Thursday of next week.

There will be a joint meeting of the label, ways and means, and entertainment committees on April 2 at the home of Mrs. Eula Edwards.

We were glad to see Mrs. Marion Schimke, after her long absence. The Schimkes are now living in Oakland.

### Golf News—By Fred N. Leach

The days are getting longer and the sun is getting stronger—and soon we will have spring with us again. And spring means that the first tournament of the Association in that season is the March tournament, and is also the tournament of the qualifying round for the Association match play cup championship. That means that on Sunday, March 28, the qualifying round will be played. Sharp Park has been selected again as the scene of this month's tournament. It has been selected again for several reasons. The first is because of the fact that Sharp is in good condition. Another reason is Sharp's accessibility. However, plans are being made to play other courses during the year, after the weather settles.

So it's Sharp Park again this month. Remember, it's the qualifying round for the match play championship, but there will also be the usual 18 holes medal at handicap for War Stamp awards, a guest flight, and a hole-in-one contest for the last of the golf balls. Tee time is 10:30—and the usual greens fees and entry fees will prevail.

OFF THE FAIRWAY—Here's how the Association members in the city tournament fared last week: Howard Watson lost his match after being on top for fourteen holes. Alston Teel won again via the easy way—a default. Percy Crebassa went to town in a gale at Sharp, beating his opponent 6-5. So all that's left now battling for the S.F.U.P.G.A. are Alston Teel and Percy Crebassa. Here's good luck to both

## Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

The regular March meeting of Mailers' Union No. 18 will be held at the Labor Temple next Sunday, March 21, at which time final nominations will be made for local officers and delegates.

B. Chedester, who was recently given an honorable discharge from Army service, is now on a visit to relatives and friends in his "old stomping-ground," Houston, Texas.

C. Thomas has returned from a week's vacation trip to Seattle.

It is reported that the I.T.U. executive council meetings of March 4 and 5 were devoted to consideration of a proposal of the M.T.D.U. representatives. The first was to give the M.T.D.U. \$250,000 and permit it to withdraw from the I.T.U., and form a separate body. Another was to permit the M.T.D.U. to set up a board of five representatives to handle mailer matters, to be financed by the I.T.U. Neither proposal received support, being unanimously rejected by our officers. It is difficult to conceive of two more outlandish proposals than the above-mentioned. Judging from the past attitudes of the M.T.D.U. representatives it may have been proposed by them in the belief that it would be rejected anyway, but as just another of their bluffs to keep alive the "mailer bloc" vote, which, as they have shown, invariably cuts some "ice," or "cake," in I.T.U. elections, and at its conventions.

Fort Wayne, Ind., Columbus, Ohio, and Harrisburg, Pa., have indorsed the Milwaukee Mailers' resolution in reference to printing bills for the *Typographical Journal*.

## Civilian Defense Work Remains Vital

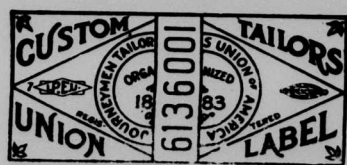
"A shrewd enemy takes advantage of a public state of lethargy, and may even cause a civilian population to be lulled into a sense of security, thereby creating a favorable opportunity for attack."

Such is the admonition toward continual vigilance which has been sent to the regional office of civilian defense from the headquarters of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army by Lieut. Gen. J. L. DeWitt, commanding. And through Governor Warren and Director Helms the admonition is being forwarded, respectively, to state and city chiefs of service in the civilian defense program.

General DeWitt's communication further asked that the necessary action be taken by the officials to bring to the attention of the public generally the need for constant vigilance and attention to civilian defense training and preparedness. He pointed out, however, that his letter should not be considered as a criticism of the efficiency of civilian defense, but rather to emphasize the importance of continued effort in that field.

of 'em! . . . Had a couple of nice letters last week—one from Sergeant McDermott of the Army, the first president of the Golf Association. "Mac" is quite well and happy, and mentioned that he was writing on his third anniversary in the forces. It doesn't seem that long since we gave him that sendoff at the "Shack." He sends his best to all the gang and tells us to carry on with the good old Golf Association. . . . The other letter was from Seaman Ralph Iusi, who also says he is in the "pink" and is making progress in the service. Ralph is our 1942 champion, and we would like to see him here to defend his title this year—and it is quite possible we shall. He tells us he has passed his examination in radio and may possibly be sent to Treasure Island. He, too, sends his best regards to all the gang. . . . Both the lads say that they look forward each week to the *LABOR CLARION* for their union and golf news—and their letters show that the old morale is plenty high. Am sure that all the members of the Association join in wishing them all the best.

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## Union Makes Suggestions on "Absenteeism" Anent State Legislature's Invitation to Rickenbacker

[Following is the complete text of a communication which has been forwarded to both houses of the California Legislature by Pile Drivers, Bridge, Wharf and Dock Builders' Union No. 34 of California, according to an announcement made this week by the union's business representative, J. T. Wagner.]

"Gentlemen:

"It is reported that Capt. Ed. Rickenbacker has been invited to speak before the State Legislature. Rickenbacker has used 'absenteeism' to launch a vicious and distorted attack on labor.

### Labor Has Made Real Effort

"Labor long ago pointed out the serious effects of absenteeism on production and called for elimination of the basic reasons for absenteeism. Labor is the only group in the country that so far has made a real effort to remedy the causes of absenteeism.

"England found that the only way to reduce absenteeism was to do away with the conditions that fostered it. Why not learn from their experience?

### Remedial Measures Proposed

"What is the cure for this production malady?

"1. Reduction of excessively long working hours—that drain workers of their physical resistance and make them prey to all sorts of illness. Most war workers are working beyond the number of hours at which the body can sustain good production and maintain health.

"2. Provide proper transportation—so that workers will have some time left to rest and can be guaranteed means of getting to and from work.

"3. Full rationing of meat and all other essential needs—so that workers can get a balanced diet neces-

sary to health; provide proper eating facilities at plants and shipyards.

### Proper Living Conditions Vital

"4. Adequate housing—Men and women working long hours at a high rate of speed must have proper living conditions. Sleepless nights in overcrowded rooms, improper sanitation, cannot help but produce sickness and therefore absenteeism.

"5. Nursery schools and child care—so that working mothers do not have to take time off to stay home with the children.

### Regulate Business Hours

"6. Adjustment of the entire community to the needs of war workers—Regulate store hours, doctors' and dentists' hours and all public facilities for all shifts.

"In short, do away with the conditions that make it necessary for men and women to take time off because of illness and fatigue, to shop for the family or obtain medical and dental attention.

### Appropriate Discussion

"The Pile Drivers' Union, Local 34, feels that our State Legislature should discuss absenteeism—but with representatives of the people involved; with employers and the workers on the job (through their unions), instead of with a man who is using his personal prestige to attack the very backbone of the country's war effort.

"We call upon the State Legislature to invite representatives of labor and management to discuss with them practical solutions to this problem, to be carried out in co-operation and conjunction with the proper federal agencies."

## State Federation Digest Of Pending Legislation

Each affiliated organization of the California State Federation of Labor has been mailed an exhaustive digest of nearly five hundred bills introduced at the present session of the Legislature, that all of the members of the various unions may have an opportunity to be conversant with pending legislation of interest to labor.

The pamphlet is the most comprehensive of its kind yet issued by the state labor body, and of course includes all bills sponsored by the Federation. The measures are listed in the following categories: "Senate Bills—Good," "Senate Bills—Bad," "Assembly Bills—Good," and "Assembly Bills—Bad." A number of resolutions introduced in both houses also are included in the digest.

The Federation announces that information pertaining to legislative matters can be obtained at its headquarters, and that it will be only too glad to supply such service to unions and their members.

### C.T.U. AFFILIATION VOTED

The Commercial Telegraphers' Union announces that the large federal union of Western Union employees in Philadelphia has voted almost unanimously by referendum to affiliate with the C.T.U., only seven votes being cast against such affiliation. This adds another 1000 to the growing number of Western Union employees for whom the C.T.U. is certified by the National Labor Relations Board, making a new total of approximately 31,000.

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## Freedom in North Africa Is Subject of Conference

Sidney Roger, foreign analyst and news commentator, will address a conference of church, labor and civic group delegates and visitors on the subject of "The Four Freedoms in North Africa," tomorrow (Saturday), at 1 p. m., in the Sir Francis Drake hotel.

Harold J. Boyd, San Francisco City Controller, will preside at the meeting. Mr. Boyd is honorary chairman of the Citizens Committee for Democratic Freedom in North Africa, which sponsors the conference. Rabbi Elliot Burstein, Frederick Thompson, Harry Christie, president of the Board of Education, and others also will speak.

The discussion will center around repeal of anti-semitic laws, bans on trade unions, release of political prisoners, and removal of Vichy appointees in North Africa, all of which have been given special emphasis by the recent radio speech of General Henri Giraud last Sunday.

"If prohibition comes back it makes no difference to me. My salad days are over and you can have the dressing. I'm not a reformed character. I'm just exhausted. But I would not like to see prohibition come back under the erroneous classification of public improvements."—"Bugs" Baer.

## An American Boy Died—Were You Neglectful?

Somebody put off going to the Red Cross Blood Procurement Center to donate a pint of blood—somebody who was "too busy" about their own affairs. So an American boy died—a boy who would have been saved if there had been enough blood plasma to go around. That was the tragic story related by Dr. Robert Lee Dennis, Lieutenant, U. S. Navy, who has just returned here after a year of sea duty.

"The ironic part of that unnecessary tragedy was that the boy himself was a blood donor," said Dr. Dennis. "We put into port here last July, and one of the first things I read in the paper was a plea by the Red Cross for blood donors. I was surprised—I thought people would be clamoring at the doors of the Blood Procurement Center for the privilege of giving blood.

"So I called a meeting of the men on the ship, and told them that blood donors were needed. Within fifteen minutes every eligible man on that ship had signed up, and we went over to the Center at 2415 Jones street the next day and donated.

Later on, during heavy action at sea, this particular boy was badly burned. He died. But he could have been saved. But the plasma supply had given out before he was injured."

Dr. Dennis explained that naval vessels need extraordinarily large supplies of plasma on hand to meet any emergency. "Sometimes a ship will stay at sea for months at a time," he said. "Or a ship will pick up the crew of another unit of the fleet during enemy action, and thus impose an additional drain on the plasma supply. As a matter of fact, I might go so far as to say there's nothing we need so much as more plasma. And that's up to the folks at home to provide. The Red Cross is doing everything possible to procure the plasma, and the Navy is getting it through to the theaters of action as fast as possible."

## Hall Association Officers Re-elected

The annual meeting of the board of directors of the San Francisco Labor Council Hall Association was held in the office of Superintendent McCabe in the Labor Temple last Friday evening. The incumbent officers of the Association were re-elected, and are: President, John P. McLaughlin; vice-president, Daniel P. Haggerty; secretary, William P. McCabe.

### MASS SINGING BY CHINESE

Reported as one of the most inspiring sights in free China today is thousands of people joining in the mass singing of patriotic melodies. This is a spectacle never seen before in China and unheard of until six years ago. It is not confined to schools and colleges, but has spread to the common people, to the refugees, guerillas and soldiers at the front.



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## S. F. Labor Council

Secretary's Office and Headquarters:  
Labor Temple, 2940 Sixteenth Street (Room 214)  
Headquarters Phone MArket 6304

The Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m., at the Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committee meets every Monday, at 8 p. m. The Organizing Committee meets every Friday, at 7 p. m. The Union Label Section meets the first Wednesday of every month, at 7:30 p. m.

### Synopsis of Meeting Held Friday, March 12, 1943.

Meeting called to order at 8.10 p. m. by President Shelley.

**Roll Call of Officers**—All present.

**Reading of Minutes**—Minutes of previous meeting approved as printed in the LABOR CLARION.

**Credentials**—Referred to the organizing committee: Elevator Operators and Starters No. 117 Ilah Kruger. Lumber Clerks and Lumbermen No. 2559, Joseph Gianocca.

**Report of the Organizing Committee**—(Meeting held Friday, March 12, 1943.) Called to order at 7:15 p. m. The following were qualified as delegates to this Council and your committee recommends that they be seated: Butchers No. 115, Frank Flohr. Musicians No. 6, Peter Butti. Printing Specialties and Paper Converters No. 362, Fred Stickel.

**Communications**—Filed: Minutes of the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council dated March 4, 1943. Telegram from Congressman Welch stating he voted for limitation of \$25,000 per year on salaries as fixed by the President. Frank E. Marsh, deputy regional administrator, O.P.A., acknowledging our letter and copy of resolution submitted by Dental Laboratory Technicians No. 99. Francis Carroll, state director, O.P.A., acknowledging receipt of our letter and resolution, which was forwarded to the President of the United States. Verne Scoggins, press secretary to Governor Warren, acknowledging receipt of our letter and resolution. Erwin C. Cracknell, Photo Engravers No. 8, acknowledging receipt of our letter and resolution regarding the functioning of the O.P.A., and stating that their organization had adopted the resolution. Barbers No. 148 (Joseph H. Honey, secretary), acknowledging receipt of our letter and resolution regarding O.P.A.

and assuring us of their co-operation. The following acknowledged receipt of our letter and resolution regarding the Tolan-Pepper-Kilgore bill: Senator Hiram W. Johnson, Technical Engineers No. 89, San Francisco Federation of Teachers No. 61, Barbers No. 148. Weekly News Letters from the California State Federation of Labor, dated March 9 and 16. Bevins Austin, campaign director, San Francisco War Chest, acknowledging receipt of our check covering contributions. Don V. Nicholson, campaign director, American Red Cross 1943 War Fund, acknowledging receipt of our check covering contributions.

**Donations:** The following contribution was received for the San Francisco War Chest: Newspaper and Periodical Drivers and Helpers No. 921, \$7.50. The following contributions were received for the Red Cross War Fund: Brewers and Maltsters No. 7, \$1000; Waiters and Dairy Lunchmen No. 30, \$100.50; Theatrical Stage Employees No. 16, \$25.

**Bills** were read and ordered paid, after being approved by the trustees.

**Referred to the President of the Council:** A communication was received from William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, stating that Administrator Prentiss M. Brown of the Office of Price Administration has approved a program recommended by the labor policy committee for the establishment of voluntary district labor advisory committees to work with each district manager of the O.P.A. These committees are to assist the O.P.A. district manager in: (1) Securing the appointment of labor members to local war price and rationing boards, (2) recruiting and training price volunteers and other volunteer local board workers, (3) organizing local union consumer committees for the distribution of price control and rationing information, (4) organizing and improving the operation of joint labor-management plant transportation committees, (5) adjustment of specific complaints and in solving particular problems arising under the rationing, price control and rent control programs, (6) enforcement of rationing, price control and rent control regulations. President Shelley explained that Brother Neil Haggerty, president of the California State Federation of Labor, was in town from Sacramento to attend a meeting to be held Saturday morning, March 13, with Messrs. Carroll and Camp of the O.P.A. in their

office at the Furniture Mart for the purpose of discussing this situation.

**Referred to the Executive Committee:** Warehousemen No. 860, requesting strike sanction against the Sterling Furniture Company.

A resolution was submitted by President Shelley in his capacity as a member of the Citizens Committee for Democratic Freedom in North Africa, quoting President Roosevelt's statement on November 17, and asking that the San Francisco Labor Council grant permission to the Citizens Committee for Democratic Freedom in North Africa to send speakers to member unions to make clear the situation, and for the purpose of having delegates elected to attend the Emergency Work Conference to secure the "four freedoms" for North Africa, to be held at the Sir Francis Drake hotel, Saturday, March 20, 1 to 4 p. m. President Shelley requested that this resolution be referred to the executive committee at their meeting Monday, March 15, and that Brother Mathew Tobriner and Sol Silverman be invited to explain the resolution and reason therefor.

**Report of the Executive Committee**—(Meeting held Monday evening, March 8, 1943.) In the matter of the Local Joint Executive Board of Culinary Workers and Bartenders, requesting strike sanction against the Best Sandwich Shop, 1301 Mission street, both sides were represented, and this matter was laid over one week. In the matter of Practical Nurses' Association No. 267, requesting that the Council place the following on the "We Don't Patronize" list: American Ambulance Company and the American Nursing Service; after discussion in detail as to the trouble existing, this matter was referred to Brothers Costa and O'Connell to arrange a conference in an effort to bring about an adjustment. In the matter of Grocery Clerks No. 648 and their controversy with Geffen's Delicatessen, at the suggestion of the union this matter will be laid over one week. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p. m. The report of the committee as a whole was adopted.

Secretary O'Connell reported on the hearing on Senate Bill 290 held by the Senate committee on labor in the state capitol at Sacramento on Tuesday evening, March 9, at which this anti-labor bill was tabled by the committee by a vote of 5 to 2. President Shelley, who is a member of this same committee and who made the motion to lay this bill on the table, thanked the delegates who were in attendance at the Senate committee hearing and commended them for their fine conduct and co-operation. President Shelley also announced that the Senate committee on labor will hold its hearing on Senate Bills 92 and 93, which make permanent the prohibition against secondary boycott, in the capitol building, Sacramento, at 8 p. m. Tuesday, March 16.

Miss Margaret Bondfield, a member of the British trade union movement, addressed the Council regarding the present labor picture in England, after which she responded to various questions from the delegates.

**Receipts, \$4,898; disbursements, \$345.51.**

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

### Local Greek Societies' Ball

Patriotic, literary and musical exercises, a spectacular "Promenade of the Allies" feature, and a grand ball will feature the observance of Greek Independence Day by the Affiliated Greek Societies of San Francisco, next Thursday evening, March 25, in the Civic Auditorium. Admission will be free to the general public, and invitations can be obtained at the office of the Greek consul-general, 1182 Market street.

## "We Don't Patronize" List

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of labor unions and sympathizers are requested to note this list carefully from week to week:

Adam Hat Stores, Inc., 119 Kearny.  
Advance Pattern Company, 552 Mission.  
American Distributing Company.  
Austin Studio, 833 Market.  
Avenue Hotel, 419 Golden Gate.  
Becker Distributing Company.  
Bruener, John, Company.  
B & G Sandwich Shops.  
California Watch Case Company.  
Chan Quong, photo engraver, 680 Clay.  
Curtis Publishing Co. (Philadelphia), publishers of Saturday Evening Post, Ladies' Home Journal, Country Gentleman.  
Desenfant, A., & Co., manufacturing jewelers, 150 Post.  
Doran Hotels (include St. Regis, 85 Fourth St.; Mint, 141 Fifth St.; Hale, 939 Mission St.; Land, 936 Mission St.; Hillsdale, 51 Sixth St.; Grand Central, 1412 Market St., and the Ford Apartments, 957 Mission St.).  
Drake Cleaners and Dyers.  
Forderer Cornice Works, 269 Potrero.  
Gantner & Mattern, 1453 Mission.  
Gates Rubber Company, 2700 Sixteenth Street.  
General Distillers, Ltd., 136 Front St.  
Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of overalls and workmen's clothing.  
Lucerne Apartments, 766 Sutter.  
Mirsky, B., & Son, wholesale cigars and tobaccos, 468 Third St.  
M. R. C. Roller Bearing Company, 550 Polk.  
National Beauty Salon, 207 Powell.  
Navalet Seed Company, 423 Market.  
O'Keefe-Merritt Stove Co. Products, Los Angeles.

Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom.  
Purity Springs Water Company, 2050 Kearny.  
Remington-Rand, Inc., 509 Market.  
Romaine Photo Studio, 220 Jones.  
Royal Typewriter Company, 153 Kearny.  
Sealey Mattress Company, 6699 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland.  
Sherwin-Williams Paint Company.  
Sloane, W. & J.  
Smith, L. C., Typewriter Company, 545 Market.  
Speed-E Menu Service, 693 Mission.  
Standard Oil Company.  
Stanford University Hospital, Clay and Webster.  
Sutro Baths and Skating Rink.  
Swift & Co.  
Time and Life (magazines), products of the unfair Donnelley firm (Chicago)  
Underwood Typewriter Company, 531 Market.  
Val Vita Food Products, Inc., Fullerton, Calif.  
Wooldridge Tractor Equipment Company, Sunnyvale, California.  
All non-union independent taxicabs.  
Barber Shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair.  
Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of the Hairdressers and Cosmetologists' Department of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America are unfair.  
Cleaning establishments that do not display the shop card of Retail Cleaners' Union No. 93 are unfair.  
Locksmith Shops which do not display the union shop card of Federated Locksmiths No. 1331 are unfair.

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## Government Chiefs Urge the President to Halt N.L.R.B.-C.I.O. Raids on A.F.L. Organizations

President Roosevelt was officially informed by the heads of three outstanding war agencies of the federal government that C.I.O. raids on war plants where American Federation of Labor contracts exist are a threat to continuing high production.

The warning to the Commander-in-Chief came from the War Department, the Navy Department and the U. S. Maritime Commission.

It followed a meeting with representatives of these agencies held by a delegation from the American Federation of Labor, headed by President William Green.

The labor delegation presented factual evidence of a "grave situation" resulting from the institution of proceedings against A.F.L. contracts by the National Labor Relations Board in eighteen shipyards and in a number of manufacturing plants. In each case, the National Labor Relations Board is acting upon complaint of C.I.O. unions which hope to replace A.F.L. unions as collective bargaining representatives for the workers.

The outstanding "trouble spot," A.F.L. union representatives warned, is the Kaiser shipyards in the Northwest. They declared the board's action has led to unrest in the yards and impairment of Kaiser's amazing production records, and contended that if the board goes through with its case to the "bitter

end," conflicts between unions will cause even greater damage to output.

Among other cases of asserted "raids," cited to the military agencies, was a C.I.O. campaign designed to upset an A.F.L. agreement with the big plant of Basic Magnesium, Inc., at Las Vegas, Nev., employing 10,000 workers.

The A.F.L. spokesmen insisted that in all such instances, where collective bargaining agreements are in effect, the Labor Board should suspend proceedings "for the duration." Representatives of the government agencies agreed to lay the facts and recommendations of the Federation leaders before President Roosevelt.

The Basic Magnesium case was described as "explosive" in letters sent to Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins and Chairman Harry A. Millis of the N.L.R.B. by Secretary-Treasurer Joseph A. McDonagh of the A.F.L. Metal Trades Department and Secretary Herbert Rivers of the Building Trades Department.

McDonagh and Rivers declared that Basic Magnesium, one of the biggest companies of its kind in the nation, entered into an agreement with A.F.L. unions months ago, carrying the highest wage scales in the Southwest.

Nonetheless, the C.I.O. has sent down a flock of organizers, "many of them armed and some of whom have been jailed for illegally carrying weapons," McDonagh asserted.

## Unions Study the Work of Government War Agencies

Following wartime labor conferences held by the Building Service Employees' International Union and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chicago area representatives of these organizations are reported becoming more familiar with the workings of government agencies set up to prosecute the war.

In calling the conferences, officials of both unions pointed out that if organized labor is to protect its interests, it must learn more about these agencies and how to deal with them.

The building service employees' conference, attended by 125 delegates, representing more than 38,000 members, was called by William L. McFetridge, international president.

Delegates to the teamsters' meeting came from all parts of Illinois and represented approximately 150,000 members.

Among government agency representatives who spoke at the conferences was John T. Burke, A.F.L. liaison officer in the O.P.A., who is also a member of the Teamsters' Union.

Henry Burger, international representative, told the delegates that the labor research office which called the conference was set up by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers to serve its locals in Chicago and vicinity, and to assist them in their cases before the various government agencies.

## Government Officials Laud Labor Press for War Aid

Two ranking officials in the Government—Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau and Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson—paid tribute to the influence of the labor press of the nation in helping to speed the day of victory over the Axis.

Morgenthau asserted that the editors of labor publications are making an "outstanding contribution" to the war effort, and he continued:

"I have always felt very strongly that the working man and woman understood more what this war was about than anybody else, and that they did not have to be propagandized to let them know what we were fighting against. Labor editors have helped to give the workers this understanding, and have followed it up with information on wartime problems which affect them and which call for their energies to win the war and the peace. The labor union press is performing a notable wartime service for its readers, particularly in the field of taxes and war bonds."

"I know of no group better qualified to hammer home the truths of the war situation than the labor press," Patterson declared. "You speak for, you speak to, the rank and file of loyal, patriotic workers of America, who form the backbone of the nation—the backbone of the American army."

When Thomas E. Williams, for twenty-two years a member of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union at Jeffersonville, Ind., started recently his four-year term as the clerk of the Indiana supreme and appellate courts he also had the honor of being the first member of organized labor to be elected to a state office in Indiana. In the November elections he polled the highest plurality of any of the winning Republican candidates on the state ticket.



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## City Employee Salaries

The Board of Supervisors has decided to strike from the April 20 special election ballot a proposed charter amendment relating to fixing of salaries of city employees on a cost of living basis. That action by the board will leave the proposed purchase of the Market Street Railway lines as the only subject to be voted on.

It is stated that the representatives of city employees who had sponsored the salary amendment were advised at a meeting with ranking city officials that the plan faced certain defeat and that they should proceed to correct inequalities in salaries through the Board of Supervisors which is now considering recommendations made by the Civil Service Commission and a so-called fact-finding group which latter was brought in from Chicago to make survey and recommendation on salary standardization and which in its report made recommendations for actual reductions in the salary of certain higher-paid employees. The Civil Service Commission has recommended salary increases in a number of classifications, but not in amount that was satisfactory to the employees, especially those in the lower brackets.

## ANOTHER FARM LABOR AGENCY

Secretary Wickard has announced the formation of an Agricultural Labor Administration in the Department of Agriculture, to be responsible for the development and direction of all phases of the department's farm labor program. It will take over and integrate farm labor matters heretofore done by other agencies. Wayne H. Darrow has been named director of the new agency.

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## SUGGEST EMPLOYING "C.O.'S"

As an aid in the solution of the manpower shortage, the American Civil Liberties Union has suggested to the War Manpower Commission that "some 5000 conscientious objectors held in public service camps might well be drawn upon for agricultural and hospital work." The Union cited the alleged dissatisfaction of many in these camps with the unproductive character of "what is in effect CCC work," and the reported desire of a large number to be released to engage in "more active forms of service consistent with their conscientious convictions."

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## Declares "Job Freezing" Violates the Constitution

"Job freezing" is un-constitutional, Secretary-Treasurer Victor A. Olander of the Illinois State Federation of Labor declared on a nation-wide broadcast over the Mutual network.

Olander appeared on a program known as the "Chicago Theater of the Air," at the invitation of Col. Robert R. McCormick, editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune. He spoke on time occupied each week by McCormick, and was the first to appear in his place on the program. The invitation came after an exchange of views on the Constitution between Olander and the newspaper publisher.

### Gives Historical Background

Giving the historical background of the constitutional provisions guaranteeing freedom to the American worker, Olander pointed out that "prior to 1865, the common man—the man who worked for wages or for salary—had no guarantee of liberty under the Bill of Rights."

### Runaways Once Subject to Recapture

"In the field of labor," he said, "he was subject to the law of each separate state. In witness of this, I direct attention to the clause in Article IV of the Constitution providing for the recapture in all states of any person 'held to service' or labor in any state. There was no color line stated, and none intended."

"The Madison minutes of the Constitutional Convention record a motion 'to require fugitive slaves and servants to be delivered up like criminals.' The 'slaves' were Negroes who were generally held for life. The 'servants' were mainly white workers of all callings 'bound to service for a term of years.'"

### Workers' Status Revolutionized

"The subject of so-called 'runaway' workers, and methods of recapturing them, was a matter of grave concern in the American Colonies. That is plainly indicated by colonial laws and practices extending over a very long period of time. White workers were advertised as 'runaways,' like slaves, even after the Constitution had gone into effect. No man could cross a state line with any guarantee under the federal constitution that he would remain free."

Olander recalled that "on December 18, 1865, the great event took place which completely revolutionized the constitutional status of American workers," adding:

"That was when the Thirteenth Amendment, outlawing slavery and involuntary servitude, was ratified, thus nullifying the capture clause in Article IV."

### Guarantee in Amendment

"The effect? It was this: The United States then became, as it still is, the only nation in all history that has placed in a written constitution, not subject to modification by the national legislative body, a complete and unqualified guarantee of freedom of the person in the field of labor."

"That is the basic freedom from which all other liberties flow and without which they are of no avail."

The speaker declared that "the so-called 'job freezing' policy, recently developed through 'gentlemen's agreements,' is designed to arbitrarily hold workers to the service of their employers," and asserted that "that practice is a violation of the Thirteenth Amendment."

### War Powers Not Above Constitution

"When established by administrative edict, or by law," he said, "it constitutes a form of serfdom. Webster defines the word 'serf' as a person who is 'bound . . . to the soil and more or less subject to the will of the owner of the soil.' The 'soil,' of course, was simply the place of employment. That was the original 'job freezing' scheme."

"The right to refuse to work for a designated master or employer is the basic right definitely declared in the Constitution. That is the fundamental

right which marks the essential difference between the free man and the serf or slave."

Olander observed that "the war powers of the American government, set forth in Article I, are exceedingly great," but warned that "there can, however, be no legal power, even in war, to do that which is forbidden by the Constitution."

"It is axiomatic," he said, in conclusion, "that the willing service of free men is far more productive than the forced labor of others driven under the lash of compulsion."

### Workers Face Test of Serfdom

"Do the workers of America fully realize that they now face the great test of their freedom? They must be told that, as free citizens—sovereign citizens, if you please, not as mere subordinates—it is their duty and their responsibility to voluntarily meet every national need in the field of civilian labor. Let it be heralded from every housetop that as the freest workers on earth, and the happiest in peace, they must now prove that they are also the strongest and most reliable in war."

## Red Cross Aid to War Prisoners

W. W. Crocker, chairman of the 1943 War Fund campaign to raise a minimum of \$1,560,000 locally for war activities of the American Red Cross, this week pointed out that it is logical that more and more Americans will become prisoners of war as our forces expand and participate in fighting on many fronts.

These men's contact with their folks at home depends for the most part upon the Red Cross, Crocker continued. With a portion of the money contributed in the current San Francisco drive and with the help of hundreds of volunteer workers, packages of food, clothing and medical supplies are being sent to American boys in concentration camps through agreements between the International Red Cross and the warring nations.

Each package contains a week's supply of food for one individual. Weighing eleven pounds, the supplies include dehydrated soups, milk powder, cheese, meat, chocolate, coffee, cocoa, sugar, raisins, liver paste, lemon powder and cigarettes.

### TO MAP MANPOWER PLAN

A committee of five has been asked by the President to determine the number of men and women needed by the armed forces, by industry and by agriculture and to lay down a program to supply them. The committee is headed by Economic Stabilization Director James F. Byrnes. Other members are Bernard M. Baruch, chairman of the War Industries Board of the last war; Harry Hopkins, confidential advisor to the President; Admiral William D. Leahy, the President's military advisor, and Justice Samuel I. Rosenman, of the New York Supreme Court.

## Strike Halts Production In Five Local Breweries

Work was halted last Monday in five large San Francisco breweries and one in San Jose when a strike was called by organizations affiliated with the International Union of Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers. The international union of which the striking workers are members is not affiliated with either the A.F.L. or the C.I.O.

### One Issue in Controversy

The direct issue involved in the strike is a demand for a closed shop contract. William Ahern, a member of the executive board of the Brewery Workers' International Union, and who also is an official of the local Bottlers' Union, asserted that the contract was essential in order to give the brewery workers' organization control over deliveries of brewery products.

The situation traces to a jurisdictional dispute of long standing between the Teamsters' Union and the Brewery Workers over delivery drivers. The jurisdiction of the Brotherhood of Teamsters over the drivers was recognized, and granted, by the American Federation of Labor some years ago. Repeated attempts were made by the A.F.L. to effect an amicable settlement between the two organizations, but the brewery workers refused to recognize the jurisdictional award, and such refusal has resulted in their being no longer affiliated with the A.F.L.

### Employers' Stand

There is no disagreement with the local employers over wages, hours or other conditions, other than their refusal to sign the closed shop contract with the Beer Drivers' Union, No. 227. According to Secretary J. G. Hamilton of the Brewers' Institute, the signing of such a contract "would be a partisan action in a jurisdictional dispute between two unions and would invite reprisals."

### EYE PROTECTION NEGLECTED

Industry is overlooking recognized methods of protecting the eyesight of workers, it is revealed in a report on a study recently made for the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness. The report is published in the current issue of the *Sight-Saving Review*, the society's quarterly journal, and is based on a study of fifty typical plants employing approximately 167,000 workers. The Society directed attention to an estimate that at least 25 per cent of industrial workers have defective, but correctible, vision.

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PARKER S. MADDUX, President

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